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# Market News

Issued **LIVESTOCK DIVISION** Weekly

## MARKET REVIEWS AND STATISTICS

Vol. 24, No. 5

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Week ended January 28

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE  
LIVESTOCK DIVISION  
Washington 25, D. C.



## MIDWEST LIVESTOCK MARKET REVIEW

The outstanding development in the week's livestock trade was the sharpest price advance on hogs in several years. Receipts were drastically curtailed and buyers competed very actively for the smaller supply. This urgent demand influenced advances of mostly \$2.00-2.75 on butchers, placing prices on the highest levels since October. Receipts of fed cattle were liberal for this time of year and slaughter steers and heifers sold unevenly steady to \$1.00 lower. Prices of cows advanced, influenced by scarcity of supplies. Receipts of slaughter lambs were fairly large but demand was good and prices advanced 25¢-\$1.00 or more during the week.

## SLAUGHTER CATTLE AND CALVES

Highlighting the week's cattle trade was another liberal run of steers for this time of year. Good and Choice grades predominated with a large percentage being weights 1100# up, and with some points receiving the largest numbers of the season, supplies were more than immediately needed by the trade. Even though daily runs were more evenly distributed than a week earlier, and despite some strength in wholesale beef prices, slaughter steers and heifers sold unevenly steady to \$1.00 lower, declines at a few points being held to 50¢ or less. Good and Choice steers over 1100# and Commercial to low-Choice new crop steers showed greatest downturns and prices of these generally settled to new low levels for the season. Cows, bulls and vealers, stimulated by scarcity, sold steady to higher. Good to Prime vealers were occasionally \$2.00-3.00 higher, but most sales were steady to \$1.00 up.

The percent of Prime steers at Chicago continued unusually high for this time of year - 22.4% compared with 8.8% a year ago - but only 2% of the beef steers at Omaha were Prime, with only 3.6% at Sioux City, while other markets received extremely few of that grade. The week's average weight of 1165# for beef steers at Chicago was 71# above a year ago and heaviest in five years. Average weights at several other markets for which such data are available were from 35 to 55# above a year ago, indicating that the long sustained movement of heavy offerings is not yet over. This overlapping of new and old crop steers to a greater extent than usual has been an important influence in the recent severe declines in prices, particularly on heavy steers as well as Good new crop offerings.

Choice and Prime steers around 1200# up are now selling from \$1.00-3.00 or more below steers of the same grades under 1100#. At Chicago average to high-Prime 1050-1200# steers cashed at \$24.25-24.75, one load \$25.00, whereas high-Prime 1370# brought \$23.50, same grade 1555# \$22.75, some Prime heavierweights down to \$18.00 and below. High-Good steers under 1000# sold there up to \$19.50, while by contrast Good 1325-1600# with a Choice end brought \$16.00-16.75, indicating the rather sharp discounts for weight. Choice and Prime steers of all weights bulked at Chicago from \$17.50-24.00, mostly \$23.50 down late; Good mainly \$15.50-17.50; a few Utility and Commercial \$12.00-15.00.

## STOCKER AND FEEDER CATTLE AND CALVES

Receipts of stocker and feeder cattle at terminal markets were below the seasonally moderate numbers received the previous week and a year ago. Outgo of steers from the 10 markets during the week totaled 17,167 compared to 21,664 the previous week and 25,847 a year ago. Overall supplies consisted chiefly of Good to low-Choice offerings, but scattered shipments of average to high-Choice steers also were available, including a few loads of Choice lightweight stockers as well as occasional shipments of highly bred 750-950# feeders. Trading continued somewhat uneven but for the most part prices varied but little from a steady basis with demand generally proving adequate to absorb the numbers on offer. Feeder steers in some instances showed mild weakness in sympathy with fresh downturns in fat cattle prices and at San Antonio the trend was generally weak to 50¢ lower. However, in contrast, at Kansas City all stocker classes moved readily on a strong to 50¢



higher basis, even though feeders on that market found slow outlet and occasionally showed an easier trend. The continued reliable outlet for stockers, particularly for steers 500# down, in the face of the still bearish fat cattle market and in some localities adverse weather conditions, pointed up the growing preference among cattlemen for "little" cattle that can be roughed through the late winter and then placed on pasture to cheapen original costs with a summer's weight gain on grass. At the same time the currently unfavorable price relationship between fats and feeders influenced most feeder buyers to proceed slowly in buying feedlot replacements. The average cost of all steers 500# up shipped to the country from Kansas City during the week was \$3.98 under a year ago while the average of all fed steers on that market during the week was \$6.61 under a year ago. A few loads of Choice fleshy 750-850# feeders sold from \$17.50-18.50 but feeder buyers generally were reluctant to go above \$17.00 on steers over 850#. Meanwhile, a few Choice steer calves sold upward to \$23.00 and a few loads of Choice 500-650# yearling stockers cashed from \$19.50-21.00.

#### HOGS

Hog prices during the last week of January registered one of the sharpest advances in several years, sending general levels to the highest point at many markets since mid-October. The main stimulating influence was an abrupt reduction in receipts but good demand by both packers and shippers along with generally higher prices in the wholesale fresh pork trade acted as supporting factors. Barrows and gilts were \$1.75-3.00 higher for the week, mostly \$2.00-2.75 higher, and sows were 50¢-\$2.50 higher, mostly \$1.50-2.00 up. Prices in many parts of the mid-west were lifted \$2.50-4.50 above the 14-year low recorded during the forepart of December. The average cost of \$13.67 for barrows and gilts at Chicago Friday was \$3.27 above the winter low of \$10.40 on December 7. As a result of the small receipts and urgent demand for current slaughter requirements, buyers were less discriminating in selecting hogs than in most recent weeks and there was relatively little sorting for either weight or grade. Nevertheless, some price differential was made on several days between U. S. No. 1 and 2 grades and the No. 2 and 3 lots of the same weight. The slower marketing reduced receipts to the smallest volume since the last week in September and to a level more than a fourth less than the average of the past 13 weeks. Supplies were smaller than in the corresponding week a year earlier for the first time since last July. Marketings were again relatively more liberal in parts of the Eastern and Southern Corn Belt than in other sections because of an earlier movement of fall farrowed or new crop hogs in the former areas. Average weights of butchers were considerably lighter than a year ago at several markets. Sows made up from 4 to 10% of receipts. Stocker and feeder pigs were strong to \$2.00 higher. Good and Choice pigs at South St. Paul and Sioux City brought \$10.50-11.00, some at South St. Paul up to \$11.50. A few Good 100-125# at Kansas City sold from \$9.50-10.00, one small lot of 140# feeders \$11.50. At Memphis a few Good and Choice 90-120# feeder pigs brought \$10.00-12.00 late, while Common and Medium pigs sold during the week from \$8.50-10.00.

#### SHEEP AND LAMBS

Receipts at midwest markets showed little change from the previous week but were about 20% larger than for the corresponding week a year ago. Trading was quite active at most points, especially through Wednesday, and lambs closed 25¢-\$1.00 higher, with some at Chicago \$1.50 higher. Feeder lambs and sheep sold steady to 50¢ up. Although there was generally only a minimum of sorting, lambs weighing 105-110# and heavier were still discounted up to around \$2.00 per cwt. or more. Most Good to Prime woolled lambs 110# down sold from \$17.50-20.00, a few loads Choice and Prime \$20.25-21.00, most 110-135# wts. cashing from \$17.00-19.25. Good and Choice shorn lambs 109# down with No. 1 and fall shorn pelts sold at \$17.50-19.75, mostly \$18.00-19.00, with occasional fresh shorn lambs down to \$16.00. Most Cull to low-Good lambs cleared at \$12.00-18.00. Cull to Choice slaughter ewes brought \$3.00-7.75, and Medium to Choice feeder lambs earned \$14.00-18.50, a few \$18.75-19.25.

Continued on page 102.

## WEEKLY RECEIPTS OF SALABLE LIVESTOCK AT 12 PUBLIC MARKETS

Market	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep	
	Jan. 28	Jan. 29	Jan. 28	Jan. 29	Jan. 28	Jan. 29	Jan. 28	Jan. 29
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
Chicago.....	52,841	40,381	1,201	1,081	49,452	53,869	15,258	8,406
Cincinnati.....	4,002	4,123	1,002	998	19,581	16,065	385	516
Denver.....	13,431	13,682	403	909	4,279	5,074	22,379	15,628
Fort Worth.....	7,344	10,293	1,640	2,655	2,269	2,077	15,582	8,426
Indianapolis.....	8,864	8,617	915	996	57,261	43,311	6,258	3,545
Kansas City.....	26,374	21,587	1,113	1,546	10,822	8,936	6,051	5,831
Oklahoma City.....	9,810	12,082	518	1,895	2,823	3,013	2,644	2,640
Omaha.....	41,330	43,514	710	803	44,592	48,744	15,859	22,605
St. Joseph.....	16,947	16,374	762	954	27,378	27,760	5,324	4,069
St. Louis NSY.....	19,633	15,446	3,197	3,631	60,103	47,406	6,150	4,700
Sioux City.....	24,594	24,364	1,000	1,036	43,441	45,036	9,241	11,303
S. St. Paul.....	20,932	20,790	12,178	9,352	68,274	61,138	15,775	13,957
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>246,102</b>	<b>231,253</b>	<b>24,639</b>	<b>25,856</b>	<b>390,275</b>	<b>362,429</b>	<b>120,906</b>	<b>101,626</b>
" Jan. 21, 1956	244,762		29,355		482,613		126,537	

## INTERIOR IOWA AND SOUTHERN MINNESOTA

Week ended:	Hogs	Sheep
Jan. 28, 1956 .....	340,000	32,700
Jan. 21, 1956 .....	415,000	33,000
Jan. 29, 1955 .....	380,500	34,700

## FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER

	Week ended			Month		12 months
	Jan. 26	Jan. 19	Jan. 27	Dec.	Dec.	Jan. - Dec.
	1956	1956	1955	1955	1954	1955
Steers - 1001# up	584	449	446	2,510	2,359	32,767
901-1000	1,453	1,576	2,473	7,296	7,240	86,644
801-900	3,977	4,245	4,079	16,377	16,641	163,061
701-800	3,562	5,092	5,006	18,445	18,036	245,933
501-700	7,591	10,302	13,843	31,876	40,166	583,739
<b>Total steers 10 mkts.</b>	<b>17,167</b>	<b>21,664</b>	<b>25,847</b>	<b>76,504</b>	<b>84,442</b>	<b>1,112,144</b>
Av. wts. " " "	729#	711#	699#	740#	722#	710#
Av. cost* " " "	\$16.69	\$16.74	\$20.23	\$15.42	\$18.38	\$18.27
" " " Chicago	17.10	16.28	20.03	16.18	19.14	19.28
" " " Ks. City	16.91	16.96	20.89	15.89	19.13	18.60
" " " Omaha	16.40	16.37	19.58	15.35	18.24	18.49
" " " S. St. Paul	14.42	15.37	17.44	14.12	16.64	16.58
" " " Sioux City	16.65	16.53	20.36	15.32	19.08	18.59
" " " Denver	17.99	18.19	22.39	15.67	20.35	19.11
" " " Ft. Worth	16.55	15.52	19.05	15.63	17.04	17.81
" " " Okla. City	16.57	16.07	18.27	15.30	17.05	17.50
" " " S. St. Joseph	16.59	16.05	20.46	15.29	18.09	17.84
" " " Natl. Stk. Yds.	16.15	16.37	18.14	15.39	17.51	17.45
<b>Total calves-10 mkts.</b>	<b>7,170</b>	<b>12,625</b>	<b>12,779</b>	<b>43,440</b>	<b>57,838</b>	<b>551,959</b>
" cows.						
heifers, bulls- " "	2,999	3,776	4,336	21,521	27,704	302,539

\* Not adjusted for differences in grade of cattle sold at each market.



## BEEF STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER

Grade	Number of head			Percent of total by grades			Average weight (pounds)			Average price in dollars per 100 lb.		
	Week ended											
	26 1956	Jan. 19 1956	27 1955	26 1956	Jan. 19 1956	27 1956	26 1956	Jan. 19 1956	27 1955	26 1956	Jan. 19 1956	27 1955
CHICAGO												
Prime	7871	7439	1921	22.4	25.6	8.8	1249	1244	1150	22.10	21.85	32.41
Choice	18340	14594	12880	52.2	50.2	58.7	1185	1162	1137	19.78	19.63	26.87
Good	8161	6322	5992	23.2	21.8	27.3	1064	1056	1013	17.67	17.66	22.93
Com'l.	641	590	945	1.8	2.0	4.3	926	997	945	15.00	14.69	18.72
Utility	142	111	203	.4	.4	.9	947	908	943	12.87	12.80	15.05
All grades	35155	29056	21941				1165	1156	1094	19.80	19.74	25.99
OMAHA 1/												
Prime	362	729	424	2.0	3.9	2.4	1267	1222	1168	21.99	21.73	30.95
Choice	11277	10657	8215	60.4	56.9	46.4	1144	1141	1120	19.50	19.42	25.96
Good	5684	5910	8361	30.5	31.5	47.2	1120	1106	1041	17.10	17.06	22.55
Com'l.	921	1095	553	4.9	5.8	3.1	1057	1046	952	14.80	14.82	17.49
Utility	416	354	152	2.2	1.9	.9	1029	939	930	12.78	12.68	14.53
All grades	18660	18745	17705				1132	1124	1077	18.48	18.43	24.21
SIOUX CITY 1/												
Prime	318	308	200	3.6	4.0	2.7	1230	1195	1134	21.80	21.24	30.87
Choice	5112	4514	3009	58.5	58.2	39.6	1178	1149	1119	19.74	19.76	26.05
Good	2774	2403	3958	31.8	31.0	52.1	1093	1087	1080	17.70	17.59	22.80
Com'l.	491	480	351	5.6	6.2	4.6	1079	1033	1018	14.65	14.74	17.88
Utility	40	44	78	.5	.6	1.0	940	1096	891	12.02	11.85	14.78
All grades	8735	7749	7596				1146	1124	1092	18.89	18.84	24.06
KANSAS CITY 1/												
Prime	27	89	54	.3	.9	.8	1024	1203	1114	21.76	20.68	30.95
Choice	4491	4326	3521	42.6	42.5	54.1	1142	1163	1134	18.77	18.76	26.10
Good	5274	4814	2758	50.1	47.4	42.4	1073	1056	1082	17.27	16.95	22.31
Com'l.	612	816	163	5.8	8.0	2.5	1072	1003	925	14.97	14.37	18.11
Utility	128	120	11	1.2	1.2	.2	961	978	792	13.53	12.60	15.81
All grades	10532	10165	6507				1101	1098	1106	17.78	17.57	24.39
ST. LOUIS NSY 1/												
Prime	37	2	11	.5	.2	.3	1081	1125	1102	22.00	22.49	30.00
Choice	1674	1551	818	22.5	23.0	21.9	1067	1081	1060	19.44	19.29	25.93
Good	4725	3784	1876	63.6	56.1	50.1	1030	1041	983	17.17	17.25	22.67
Com'l.	880	1290	930	11.8	19.1	24.8	964	1012	962	14.93	15.29	20.07
Utility	117	112	108	1.6	1.6	2.9	887	800	906	13.12	12.82	16.27
All grades	7433	6739	3743				1029	1041	993	17.42	17.32	22.66
S. ST. JOSEPH 1/												
Prime	53	27	52	.7	.4	.9	1050	1068	1111	21.62	21.45	30.09
Choice	4144	3860	2289	53.6	52.2	38.0	1134	1109	1111	18.75	18.98	25.46
Good	3200	3100	3229	41.4	41.9	53.6	1074	1077	1018	16.56	16.26	21.69
Com'l.	270	349	389	3.5	4.7	6.4	1054	1056	991	13.75	14.04	17.39
Utility	59	64	65	.8	.8	1.1	930	886	882	12.74	11.99	14.57
All grades	7726	7400	6024				1104	1091	1051	17.68	17.59	22.95

Continued.

## BEEF STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER

Grade	Number of head			Percent of total by grades			Average weight (pounds)			Average price in dollars per 100 lb.		
	Week Ended											
	26 1956	Jan. 19 1956	27 1955	26 1956	Jan. 19 1956	27 1955	26 1956	Jan. 19 1956	27 1955	26 1956	Jan. 19 1956	27 1955
DENVER 1/												
Prime	--	10	--	--	.2	--	--	1100	--	--	23.56	--
Choice	3603	2471	2781	69.3	63.5	70.7	1177	1139	1110	18.86	19.58	25.80
Good	1543	1369	1141	29.7	35.2	29.0	1115	1117	1042	17.96	18.12	23.55
Com'l.	53	38	13	1.0	1.0	.3	1087	1234	1038	14.57	13.97	17.39
Utility	--	3	--	--	.1	--	--	1082	--	--	12.50	--
All grades	5199	3891	3935	--	--	--	1158	1132	1090	18.56	19.02	25.15

1/ These summaries developed from data collected on marketings of fed cattle by the Agricultural Estimates Division.

## ESTIMATED FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER AND MEAT PRODUCTION

Week ended	Beef		Veal		Pork (excl. lard)		Lamb and mutton		Total meat prod.	Total lard prod.
	Num- ber	Prod.	Num- ber	Prod.	Num- ber	Prod.	Num- ber	Prod.		
	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.		
Jan. 28, 1956	386	216.5	127	14.2	1,299	170.4	319	15.3	416.4	46.8
Jan. 21, 1956	398	222.1	129	14.4	1,615	213.2	302	14.5	464.2	58.9
Jan. 14, 1956 <sup>1/</sup>	424	233.2	154	17.6	1,778	235.8	310	14.9	501.5	65.1
Jan. 29, 1955	347	187.9	123	14.2	1,265	175.2	271	13.2	390.5	46.3
Percentage change from:										
Jan. 21, 1956	-3	-3	-2	-1	-20	-20	+6	+6	-10	-21
Jan. 29, 1955	+11	+15	+3	0	+3	-3	+18	+16	+7	+1
Week ended	Average weights (lb.)								Lard yield per 100 lb.	
	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep and lambs			
	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed 2/	Live	Dressed		
Jan. 28, 1956	1,020	561	205	112	236	131	100	48	15.3	
Jan. 21, 1956	1,015	558	205	112	240	132	100	48	15.2	
Jan. 14, 1956	1,010	550	210	114	242	133	100	48	15.3	
Jan. 29, 1955	990	541	209	115	244	138	100	49	15.0	

1/ Actual slaughter and revised estimate of production. 2/ Excludes lard.

## WEEKLY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION AT MAJOR CENTERS

City or Area	Cattle			Calves			Hogs			Sheep and lambs		
	Jan.			Jan.			Jan.			Jan.		
	28	21	29	28	21	29	28	21	29	28	21	29
	1956	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955
Boston, New York City Area.....	13,591	13,176	11,508	9,906	10,773	11,023	62,843	60,396	51,978	49,632	52,525	48,515
Baltimore, Philadelphia.....	8,624	8,553	8,063	1,035	1,120	1,169	31,757	32,880	23,872	2,599	2,543	1,524
Cin., Cleve., Detroit, Indpls.....	18,701	18,739	16,391	5,463	5,273	5,217	116,030	114,378	90,573	16,073	17,432	12,598
Chicago Area.....	27,530	27,589	26,434	6,340	7,430	6,420	50,004	60,200	63,059	7,538	7,460	6,338
St. Paul-Wis Areas.....	31,048	32,854	27,729	30,912	30,285	27,488	116,799	155,387	120,627	18,230	17,908	15,277
St. Louis Area.....	15,212	15,583	13,730	2,870	3,206	5,170	90,595	113,214	69,704	11,395	11,848	8,959
Sioux City.....	11,644	12,020	8,997	36	52	5	27,445	30,643	28,159	6,898	5,374	5,161
Omaha Area.....	35,317	37,136	33,309	843	1,078	897	79,880	104,695	81,425	21,681	18,042	21,415
Kansas City.....	17,544	18,816	15,370	2,229	2,402	3,311	35,661	49,203	32,821	12,883	11,366	11,333
Iowa-So. Minnesota.....	30,743	31,459	27,348	14,295	13,964	11,358	239,467	366,212	307,331	38,242	34,824	33,833
Lou'l. Evan'l. Nash'l. Mph's.....	8,160	9,260	8,990	6,591	6,629	7,252	53,975	57,842	39,322	Not available.		
Georgia-Alabama Area.....	6,392	6,511	6,768	2,372	3,070	2,702	33,679	37,800	24,181	--	--	--
St. Jo'ph. Wichita, Okla. City.....	21,699	22,680	19,545	3,322	3,469	3,309	60,088	78,576	57,269	14,137	13,578	12,952
Ft. Worth, Dallas, San Antonio.....	13,205	14,792	18,068	5,843	5,374	5,613	27,145	34,400	20,891	15,282	14,693	10,545
Denver, Ogden, Salt Lake City.....	17,808	18,273	16,576	781	766	1,185	18,269	21,733	17,554	25,259	21,446	16,531
Los Angeles, San Fran. Areas.....	30,030	30,350	25,849	3,280	3,674	2,483	38,671	43,767	35,307	33,985	33,210	28,963
Portland, Seattle, Spokane.....	7,740	7,950	6,511	504	509	357	22,734	24,574	14,562	5,321	4,710	5,021
Total.....	314,988	291,186	291,186	99,074	1,105,042	1,078,635	272,152	272,152	238,965	272,152	272,152	238,965

ACTUAL FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER AND REVISED ESTIMATE OF MEAT PRODUCTION  
BY WEEKS, DECEMBER 1955

Week ended	Cattle			Calves			Hogs			Sheep and lambs			Lard		
	Av.			Av.			Av.			Av.			Yield		
	Num--	dr.	Prod.	Num--	dr.	Prod.	Num--	dr.	Prod.	Num--	dr.	Prod.	per	per	Prod.
	1,000	lb.	mil.lb.	1,000	lb.	mil.lb.	1,000	lb.	mil.lb.	1,000	lb.	mil.lb.	100 lb.	100 lb.	lb.
Dec. 10	427	546	233.1	169	115	19.4	1,841	132	243.5	311	47	14.5	510.5	62.0	62.0
17	380	552	209.7	155	115	17.9	1,769	132	233.9	253	47	11.8	473.3	62.4	62.4
24	317	552	174.9	135	115	15.5	1,538	132	203.4	216	46	10.0	403.8	55.8	55.8
31	314	549	172.4	105	114	12.0	1,333	131	175.0	260	47	12.2	371.6	51.9	51.9
1/ Excludes lard.															



## CATTLE: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification	Chicago			Kansas City			Omaha		
	28	Jan.	29	28	Jan.	29	28	Jan.	29
	1956	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955
Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers									
Steers -									
Prime 900-1100#	23.48	23.42	31.90:	22.28	21.75	30.58:	22.75	22.65	31.08
1100-1300	22.98	22.80	33.05:	21.70	21.28	30.82:	22.38	22.35	31.80
Choice 900-1100	20.80	20.85	28.15:	19.80	19.52	26.30:	20.12	20.20	27.38
1100-1300	19.75	19.85	27.95:	19.05	19.12	26.38:	19.88	19.68	27.15
Good 900-1100	17.72	17.80	22.55:	16.65	16.58	21.50:	17.02	17.12	21.82
Com'l. All wts.	14.82	14.78	18.10:	14.75	14.50	17.82:	14.75	14.75	17.50
Heifers -									
Prime 600-800#	--	--	-- :	--	--	-- :	--	--	--
Choice " "	19.58	19.58	24.72:	19.25	19.12	23.55:	18.82	19.25	23.92
Good 500-900	16.65	16.52	20.62:	16.33	16.25	19.45:	16.28	16.62	19.61
Com'l. All wts.	13.70	13.48	16.85:	14.00	14.00	15.35:	13.50	13.98	15.30
Cows - All weights									
Commercial	12.30	11.82	12.95:	12.42	11.75	12.28:	11.65	11.50	11.50
Utility	11.08	10.55	11.12:	11.35	10.48	10.78:	10.52	10.32	10.25
Canner & Cutter	9.75	9.18	9.65:	9.90	8.98	9.00:	9.25	9.08	8.50
Bulls - All weights -									
Good	12.75	12.75	12.95:	--	--	-- :	12.88	12.88	11.10
Utility & Commercial	14.82	14.85	14.65:	13.44	13.50	12.22:	13.44	13.44	12.53
Vealers - All weights -									
Choice & Prime	28.80	28.00	29.65:	23.60	22.00	24.30:	20.45	19.60	19.80
Com'l. & Good	22.90	22.50	23.35:	18.30	17.50	18.50:	16.00	17.60	15.60
Calves - 500# down									
Choice & Prime	19.40	19.00	22.90:	17.35	16.50	19.00:	17.50	17.00	18.15
Com'l. & Good	14.50	14.50	17.10:	14.45	14.00	15.50:	14.00	14.00	14.40
Feeder and stocker cattle and calves									
Steers -									
Choice 500-800#	20.00	19.90	22.50:	19.32	18.75	22.75:	19.38	19.42	22.38
Good " "	17.50	17.50	20.25:	17.38	17.00	20.50:	17.50	17.50	20.00
Medium 500-1000	14.75	14.75	17.50:	15.00	14.75	17.75:	14.88	14.92	17.25
Heifers -									
Choice 500-750	17.00	17.00	19.00:	16.25	16.25	19.50:	16.50	16.50	18.00
Med. & Gd. " "	13.75	13.75	15.75:	13.75	13.75	16.00:	13.50	13.50	14.25
Cows - All weights -									
Medium & Good	--	--	-- :	10.70	10.25	11.00:	10.38	10.50	10.25
Calves - 300-500# -									
Steers -									
Good & Choice	20.75	20.65	22.25:	19.70	19.25	21.50:	20.75	20.75	22.00
Heifers -									
Good & Choice	17.25	17.25	18.50:	16.75	16.25	18.50:	17.12	17.12	17.75



## HOGS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

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In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification	Chicago			Interior Iowa and southern Minnesota			Indianapolis		
	28	Jan.	29	28	Jan.	29	28	Jan.	29
	1956	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955
Barrows and gilts -									
U.S.No.1, 160-180#	13.10	11.50	17.05	11.59	9.49	15.52	12.85	11.40	17.35
2 and 3 180-200	13.60	12.02	17.88	13.04	10.94	16.89	13.55	12.00	18.00
200-220	13.50	11.88	17.75	13.42	11.34	17.15	13.55	11.98	17.90
220-240	13.35	11.72	17.68	13.07	10.91	16.78	13.35	11.75	17.52
240-270	12.60	10.89	16.80	12.55	10.35	16.17	12.88	11.18	16.70
270-300	12.05	10.35	16.10	11.96	9.75	15.41	12.30	10.52	16.00
Sows -									
300-330#	11.15	9.85	15.35	11.55	9.58	14.88	10.70	9.72	15.50
360-400	10.70	9.38	15.02	10.99	8.96	14.25	10.15	9.15	15.00
450-550	10.05	8.70	14.08	10.32	8.24	13.70	9.08	8.28	14.38
Pigs (stocker and feeder)-									
Gd. & Ch. 70-120#	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Classification	Omaha			St. Louis National Stock Yards			Sioux City		
	28	Jan.	29	28	Jan.	29	28	Jan.	29
	1956	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955
Barrows and gilts -									
U.S.No.1, 160-180#	--	10.90	--	13.30	11.72	17.83	--	--	--
2 and 3 180-200	13.90	11.68	17.62	13.80	12.28	18.07	14.06	11.50	--
200-220	13.90	11.68	17.62	13.78	12.20	17.94	14.18	11.62	17.31
220-240	13.90	11.68	17.42	13.50	11.90	17.52	14.11	11.62	17.18
240-270	13.30	11.08	16.72	12.95	11.28	16.78	13.62	10.88	16.45
270-300	12.76	10.32	15.75	12.10	10.45	16.15	12.98	10.28	15.62
Sows -									
300-330#	11.40	9.60	15.08	10.65	9.60	15.62	11.65	9.78	15.20
360-400	11.40	9.60	14.98	10.28	9.22	15.25	11.42	9.48	14.70
450-550	10.70	8.88	14.25	9.80	8.72	14.38	10.55	8.80	13.72
Pigs (stocker & feeder)-									
Gd. & Ch. 70-120#	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Classification	S. St. Paul			Baltimore			N. Portland		
	28	Jan.	29	28	Jan.	29	28	Jan.	29
	1956	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955
Barrows and gilts -									
U.S.No.1, 160-180#	13.52	11.65	17.58	13.72	12.62	19.22	13.94	12.16	18.94
2 and 3 180-200	14.10	11.80	17.62	14.28	13.09	19.22	14.62	12.69	19.22
200-220	14.10	11.80	17.50	14.35	13.09	19.22	14.62	12.69	19.22
220-240	13.92	11.62	17.02	14.00	12.66	18.84	14.31	12.41	18.97
240-270	13.52	11.10	16.30	13.28	12.12	18.09	13.28	11.62	18.28
270-300	--	--	15.55	12.25	11.25	17.34	12.94	11.38	17.75
Sows -									
300-330#	11.55	9.38	15.05	10.56	9.56	15.88	12.06	10.56	16.98
360-400	11.22	8.92	14.42	10.50	9.56	15.84	11.38	10.06	16.56
450-550	10.82	8.48	13.42	9.31	8.28	13.75	10.47	9.47	15.66
Pigs (stocker & feeder)-									
Gd. & Ch. 70-120#	10.40	9.00	17.92	--	--	--	--	--	--

## HOGS: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER OF PACKER AND SHIPPER PURCHASES 1/

Week ended		Chi- cago	St. Louis Natl. Stock Yards	Kan- sas City	Omaha	Sioux City	S. St. Joseph	S. St. Paul	Indian- apolis	8- mkts. com- bined
AVERAGE COST -		Dollars per 100 pounds								
Barrows and gilts	Jan. 28, 1956	12.90	13.25	13.71	13.57	13.75	13.64	13.49	13.16	13.38
	Jan. 21, 1956	11.03	11.62	11.47	11.09	10.99	11.42	11.11	11.50	11.24
	Jan. 29, 1955	16.74	17.45	17.16	16.64	16.22	16.94	16.73	17.38	16.85
Sows	Jan. 28, 1956	10.26	10.00	10.36	10.94	10.87	10.54	11.06	9.39	10.34
	Jan. 21, 1956	8.92	9.01	9.06	9.21	9.10	9.44	8.94	8.48	8.96
	Jan. 29, 1955	14.56	14.70	14.60	14.44	13.92	14.48	14.07	14.53	14.41
AVERAGE WEIGHT -		Pounds								
Barrows and gilts	Jan. 28, 1956	237	223	227	233	235	224	223	225	228
	Jan. 21, 1956	243	225	228	234	235	224	228	229	232
	Jan. 29, 1955	251	225	236	251	253	234	235	230	240
Sows	Jan. 28, 1956	449	424	438	425	436	409	414	461	434
	Jan. 21, 1956	437	435	437	422	417	410	426	467	434
	Jan. 29, 1955	440	429	437	454	453	423	428	462	442
NUMBER OF HEAD -										
Barrows and gilts	Jan. 28, 1956	40790	51962	9552	40531	39324	24659	60572	52964	320354
	Jan. 21, 1956	63504	59035	9350	57264	52475	29144	78341	57784	406897
	Jan. 29, 1955	45515	43597	8238	45009	40751	25655	55909	39795	304469
Sows	Jan. 28, 1956	4700	3540	734	2595	1504	1519	3437	3455	21484
	Jan. 21, 1956	6868	3517	645	3705	1930	1833	4109	3651	26258
	Jan. 29, 1955	2560	1979	363	1948	1466	1366	2013	2127	13822
SOWS		Percentage of total								
Jan. 28, 1956		10	6	7	6	4	6	5	6	6
Jan. 21, 1956		10	6	6	6	4	6	5	6	6
Jan. 29, 1955		5	4	4	4	4	5	3	5	4

1/ Weighted average.

## WEEKLY AVERAGE WHOLESALE VALUE OF HOG PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM 100 LB. LIVE HOG, COMPARED WITH PRICES OF LIVE HOGS, CHICAGO

	Hog products 1/	Hog prices 2/	Gross spread or margin 3/
Jan. 28, 1956	\$16.03	\$13.60	+ \$2.43
Jan. 21, 1956	14.72	12.02	+ 2.70
Jan. 29, 1955	19.63	17.88	+ 1.75

1/ Value of all edible products, fresh basis (lard rendered) in 100 lb. of live hog computed from wholesale prices on carlot basis, Chicago, reported by National Provisioner daily market report.

2/ Mean of daily quotations on U. S. No. 1, 2 and 3 hogs, 180-200# wt. Chicago.

3/ Difference between wholesale product value and hog prices.

## HOG AND CORN PRICES AT CHICAGO AND HOG-CORN PRICE RATIO

Week ended	Barrows and gilts Dollars per 100 pounds	Corn, 1/ No. 3, yellow Cents per bushel	Hog-corn price ratio based on barrows and gilts
Jan. 28, 1956	12.90	123.9	10.4
Jan. 21, 1956	11.03	123.0	9.0
Jan. 29, 1955	16.74	151.2	11.1

1/ Simple average price.



Sheep and lambs: Weekly average of daily quotations  
In dollars per 100 pounds

Week ended		Chicago	Omaha	City	Worth	Denver	Salt Lake	Franklin	Ogden & South
<u>Lambs - 110# down (WOOLED) -</u>									
Choice and	Jan. 28, 1956	20.10	19.72	19.60	--	19.82	--	19.50	
Prime	Jan. 21, 1956	19.10	18.85	18.40	--	18.85	--	19.25	
	Jan. 29, 1955	22.00	20.88	20.68	--	21.00	--	21.00	
<u>Good and</u>									
Choice	Jan. 28, 1956	19.42	18.70	18.55	18.10	18.92	17.75	--	
	Jan. 21, 1956	18.70	17.92	17.45	17.20	18.10	17.55	--	
	Jan. 29, 1955	21.00	20.15	20.90	19.38*	19.70	19.70	20.00	
<u>EWES (WOOLED) -</u>									
<u>Good and</u>									
Choice	Jan. 28, 1956	6.82	4.50	4.62	--	7.38	6.25	--	
	Jan. 21, 1956	6.75	4.42	4.62	--	7.12	6.00	--	
	Jan. 29, 1955	7.25	7.50	6.38	--	8.25	--	10.00	
<u>Cull and</u>									
Utility	Jan. 28, 1956	5.25	3.50	3.62	--	5.35	4.25	--	
	Jan. 21, 1956	5.25	3.50	3.62	--	5.25	3.75	--	
	Jan. 29, 1955	6.38	5.75	5.00	--	6.12	--	6.00	
<u>FEEDER LAMBS</u>									
<u>Good and</u>									
Choice	Jan. 28, 1956	--	17.20	--	16.75	17.80	15.75	--	
	Jan. 21, 1956	--	17.00	--	16.50	17.50	15.75	--	
	Jan. 29, 1955	--	21.00	--	18.95	19.65	--	--	

\* Shorn basis

ESTIMATED PERCENT FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE  
AND SLAUGHTER COWS IN SALABLE RECEIPTS

Week ended	Chicago	Kansas	Omaha	S. St.	St. Louis	Sioux	S. St.
		City		Joseph	NSY	City	Paul
<u>Feeders and stockers</u>							
Jan. 27, 1956	3	26	8	11	5	22	7
Jan. 20, 1956	3	27	9	16	5	30	5
Jan. 28, 1955	2	26	10	15	4	22	10
<u>Slaughter cows</u>							
Jan. 27, 1956	11	7	11	10	17	10	33
Jan. 20, 1956	11	10	12	13	18	12	35
Jan. 28, 1955	12	10	12	13	22	9	30
<u>Indianapolis</u>							
	Indianapolis	Denver	Fort Worth	Okla. City	Wichita	San Antonio	
<u>Feeders and stockers</u>							
Jan. 27, 1956	4	5	20	50	20	40	
Jan. 20, 1956	6	40*	15	55	27	40	
Jan. 28, 1955	8	10	25	60	39	50	
<u>Slaughter cows</u>							
Jan. 27, 1956	14	15	12	13	19	25	
Jan. 20, 1956	16	10	15	13	20	25	
Jan. 28, 1955	25	20	18	13	16	33	

\*Included Show entries.

NEW YORK WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW  
Western Dressed Fresh Meats

Receipts of Western dressed fresh meats were somewhat below normal with lamb offerings generally limited. A few cars of lamb were delayed in transit. Trading was highlighted by a dependable outlet for fresh pork at progressively higher prices, particularly on loins. Demand was fair at the outset, and trade followed a fair to slow pattern on subsequent sessions. Firm early price stands were well maintained. Prime steer offerings were reduced in number, and rather sparingly represented in most sales coolers. Carcasses 700# down, and arm chucks moved best while hindquarters and ribs were more or less neglected. Concessions were necessary on some lower grade veal and calf offerings to effect clearance. Lamb prices worked strong to higher, with best action on carcasses under 50#. Daily clearances of fresh pork were mostly complete as the result of a fairly broad inquiry for practically all cuts from retail channels. Compared with the previous week: Steer beef steady to \$1.00 higher; cow beef steady; veal mostly steady to \$2.00 lower; calf steady to \$4.00 lower; lamb \$1.00-3.00 higher; pork loins \$5.00-6.00 higher; other fresh pork cuts steady to \$3.00 higher.

Prime 600-800# steer carcasses cleared at \$36.00-40.00, Choice \$34.50-38.00; Good \$31.00-32.00. Commercial cow sold from \$25.00-27.00, bulk \$26.00 down. Prime veal sold from \$44.00-48.00, Choice 80-150# \$38.00-44.00; Good \$28.00-34.00; Commercial \$25.00-31.00. Choice calf, 200# down, cleared from \$34.00-37.00, Good \$32.00-34.00; Commercial \$25.00-30.00. Choice and Prime lamb under 45# closed at \$39.00-41.00, 45-55# \$37.00-39.00, 55# up selling down to \$33.00. Good lamb under 50# brought \$34.00-38.00. Eight to 12# pork loins closed at \$38.00-42.00; fresh skinned hams \$42.00-44.00. Boston butts and spareribs showed advances of \$1.00-3.00 for the week.

Locally Dressed Fresh Meats

Most retailers participated in the trade on Monday, while action on subsequent days was only fair. In view of unsettled conditions for both kosher and non-kosher offerings, slaughtering operations were curtailed moderately. Steer beef realizations averaged about steady, while veal and calf prices advanced under higher replacement costs. Lamb prices were uneven, with lightweight offerings fully steady to higher, while heavyweights worked weak to lower. Sizable upturns were registered on fresh pork, with progressive daily advances.

Prime steer carcasses were in limited volume as bulk consisted of Choice and embraced all weight groups. Wholesalers maintained firm price stands on Prime carcasses and cuts while Choice and below were weak to lower. Late action on hindquarters was particularly slow. Trading was fairly active for kosher steer cuts at strong to higher prices.

Veal and calf sellers encountered difficulty in attempting to advance prices or keep abreast of replacement costs. Consequently, kills were curtailed after midweek. Lamb supplies were about 20% less than the previous week, and the major portion consisted of heavier weights. Buyer preference was for carcasses averaging around 45# down, which sold at \$1.00-2.00 upturns, while heavier weights moved slowly at weak to lower prices. Kosher lamb foresaddles sold early on a peddling basis, but demand broadened late, with some strength in prices.

Fresh pork sold unevenly higher, with sharpest upturns on loins. Supplies were fully normal, but moved out reliably as retailers indicated preference for city dressed pork cuts.



## CHICAGO WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Prime beef was in limited volume. Bulk graded Good and Choice and such offerings were more than adequate. Most lamb and veal graded Choice and below. Lamb under 50# was scarce, while weights under 80# predominated in veal. Supplies of fresh pork cuts were moderate but usually sufficient. Pork loin prices scored substantial upturns, closing quotations being the highest since October 11, 1955. Smaller supplies and advancing replacement costs influenced the weeks advance in pork cuts. Demand was good for limited supplies of Prime beef and equivalent cuts, otherwise carcass beef trading was dull. All interests were in the market for squarecut beef chucks and rounds, but Good and Choice ribs and loins of all weights sold in a slow trade, with prices working lower. Early in the week, lamb legs and stews proved hardest to move but by midweek, movement of lamb legs improved considerably. In carcass lamb, weights under 50# were most active, while in veal, Choice and Prime 80-130# carcasses moved best. Good clearance of fresh pork is indicated, clearance of other classes only fair. Compared to last Thursday's close: Prime beef 50¢ higher, other grades mostly 50¢ lower; veal steady to weak; lamb 50¢ to \$1.00 higher; pork loins 8-16# \$6.00-7.00 higher; other pork cuts \$1.00-2.50 higher.

Choice and Prime squarecut beef chucks cashed at \$28.00-30.00, comparable rounds \$40.00-43.00; Prime loins \$75.00-80.00, Choice \$58.00-63.00; Prime ribs \$55.00-57.00, Choice \$42.00-47.00; Choice and Prime kosher style beef chucks \$28.00-30.00. Choice veal hindsaddles brought \$56.00-58.00, forequarters \$22.00-24.00. Lamb hindsaddles sold from \$45.00-52.00, lamb legs \$44.00-48.00; loins \$58.00-62.00; hotel ribs \$50.00-54.00.

## PACIFIC COAST WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Beef supplies were in large volume at all points on the West Coast with some Utility to Good carcasses in off condition, particularly at Los Angeles. Calf supplies were moderate to small at most points with little or no veal at Los Angeles. Lamb supplies were adequate while mutton continued scarce. Fresh pork was in moderate to liberal supply with cured pork cuts liberal to slightly excessive, particularly bacon. Trading was slow on most beef, fair on calf and lamb. Fresh pork trading was retarded somewhat by higher prices at all points. Compared to last week's close: Steer beef weak to \$1.00 lower; cow steady to weak, instances \$1.00 lower at San Francisco; veal and calf mostly steady; lamb weak to \$1.00 lower in California and \$1.00 higher in the Northwest; fresh pork loins \$1.00-10.00 higher; other fresh and cured pork cuts strong to \$5.00 higher; lard steady to \$2.75 higher, the advance at Los Angeles.

Choice steer carcasses under 700# cashed mostly from \$30.00-34.00, few to \$35.00 at San Francisco and Seattle; 700-800# \$29.00-31.00; Good under 700# \$27.00-33.00; Commercial, same weight, \$25.00-30.00; Commercial cow beef \$23.00-26.00; Utility \$22.00-25.00; Canner and Cutter \$18.00-21.00. Good and Choice veal carcasses under 150# cashed from \$40.00-48.00; same grades calf under 300# \$32.00-39.00. Choice and Prime lamb under 55# bulked from \$37.00-40.00; Good, all weights, \$32.00-38.50; Utility to Choice mutton \$19.00-22.00 at Los Angeles and \$14.00-16.00 in the Northwest. Closely trimmed pork loins under 16# sold from \$38.00-45.00; shoulders under 16# \$24.00-30.00; fresh skinned hams under 18# \$40.00-47.00; Boston butts under 8# \$30.00-34.00; spareribs under 3# \$33.00-39.00; smoked skinned hams under 18# \$45.00-50.00; slab bacon under 10# \$31.00-40.00; few to \$43.00 at Los Angeles; sliced 1# package bacon \$35.00-46.00; lard in 1# cartons \$13.50-16.25.

## WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT PRICES: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification		New York			Chicago			San Francisco		
		28	Jan.	29	28	Jan.	29	28	Jan.	29
		1956	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955
<b>Beef -</b>										
<b>Steer -</b>										
Prime	600-700#	39.00	38.50	-- :	37.50	36.85	52.75:	--	--	--
	700-800	37.00	37.00	50.00:	37.50	36.85	52.75:	--	--	--
Choice	500-600	--	--	-- :	35.50	36.05	44.30:	34.50	34.50	42.00
	600-700	37.25	37.00	46.30:	35.50	36.05	44.80:	33.00	33.25	40.35
Good	350-600	31.50	31.50	41.60:	30.80	30.70	37.50:	31.75	32.75	40.00
Com'l.	" "	29.50	29.50	37.50:	28.15	28.25	32.50:	29.00	29.00	37.00
<b>Cow, all wts. -</b>										
Commercial		26.00	26.00	29.00:	--	--	-- :	26.50	26.50	28.30
Utility		23.00	23.00	24.50:	--	--	-- :	23.50	24.50	24.20
<b>Veal -</b>										
Prime	80-110#	46.50	46.50	48.50:	44.50	44.50	48.50:	--	--	--
Choice	" "	42.50	42.50	46.50:	40.00	40.80	45.50:	--	--	--
Good	" "	35.00	35.00	42.30:	36.00	36.60	40.00:	44.00	44.00	43.00
<b>Lamb -</b>										
Prime	40-50#	39.30	38.00	43.60:	37.00	36.05	43.10:	39.00	39.00	42.00
	50-60	35.90	35.00	43.60:	33.65	32.30	41.60:	37.00	37.00	40.50
Choice	40-50	39.30	38.00	42.00:	37.00	36.05	42.10:	38.00	39.00	42.00
	50-60	35.90	35.00	42.00:	33.65	32.30	40.60:	36.00	37.00	40.00
Good	all wts.	35.80	34.50	40.60:	32.90	31.70	39.60:	36.50	36.50	38.00
<b>Pork - Fresh -</b>										
Loins	8-10# av.	38.60	33.70	42.85:	37.85	32.50	49.50:	40.50	36.90	49.00
	10-12 "	38.60	33.70	42.85:	37.85	32.50	40.50:	41.00	37.50	46.50
	12-16 "	36.30	32.20	40.65:	35.90	30.55	38.50:	38.50	35.00	44.00
Butts	4-8 "	28.50	28.50	36.50:	25.20	24.85	34.10:	32.50	32.50	44.00
<b>Pork - Cured -</b>										
<b>Hams, smk., skd. -</b>										
	12-16# av.	43.30	43.00	53.50:	46.00	45.80	51.15:	48.50	48.50	56.00
	16-18 "	40.00	40.50	46.50:	43.05	43.35	47.70:	46.00	46.00	52.00
	18-20 "	--	--	-- :	42.15	42.05	46.15:	--	--	--
<b>Bacon, smk., slab -</b>										
	6-8# av.	--	--	-- :	34.95	35.05	56.00:	38.00	38.00	57.50
	8-10 "	33.50	33.50	50.00:	32.80	33.10	52.20:	37.00	37.00	54.00
	Sliced 1 # pkg.	37.00	38.50	52.00:	38.60	38.00	55.30:	41.00	40.50	58.50
<b>Picnics, smoked -</b>										
	4-8# av.	22.50	22.00	35.50:	28.75	27.20	35.00:	30.00	30.00	36.00
<b>Backs, D. S. -</b>										
	16-20# av.	15.00	15.00	15.00:	11.35	11.50	13.00:	--	--	--
<b>Lard, 1# cartons -</b>										
Refined		16.00	16.00	17.00:	13.95	13.75	16.25:	17.50	16.50	18.50
Substitutes		--	--	-- :	25.00	25.00	27.50:	--	--	--

Note: Quotations at New York exclude locally dressed meats.



## BOSTON WOOL MARKET REVIEW

Movement of greasy domestic worsted wools in the Boston market was somewhat slower than the previous week as approximately fourteen cars of various combing wools were sold. Demand was principally for fine wools as prices remained steady and unchanged for most classes. Offerings of spot free wools continued quite limited. Scoured wools and noils moved at about the same firm levels of a week ago. New clip lambs wool in Texas continued to sell as offered while some country dealers in the midwest sold small quantities of medium fleeces for April delivery.

Private cables from Australia showed Perth closed firm and unchanged while Geelong quotes advanced 2 pence. At the Napier sale in New Zealand prices were unchanged to irregular, while Cape quotations were unchanged. General competition prevailed at all the Dominion markets. A strike of waterfront workers halted all shipments from Australia. Prices in Montevideo were reported  $1\phi$ - $1\frac{1}{2}\phi$  higher, mostly for medium grades while Buenos Aires wools were steady.

Fleece Wools - Graded fine staple Ohio delaine sold around \$1.34 clean basis while graded 60/62s average French combing fleeces brought about \$1.11-1.12. Graded 56/58s good French and staple moved at \$1.05-1.07 and 50/54s staple fleeces sold at  $98\phi$ -\$1.00 clean. New clip graded 50/54s staple wool sold for April delivery at a clean cost of \$1.02 while other medium grade new clip fleece wools for April delivery cost  $55\phi$  in the grease, delivered to the mill. There was scattered shearing of small farm flocks in Ohio.

Territory Wools - Graded 64s good French combing and staple territory wool sold at \$1.32 clean basis while graded average to short French combing 64s brought \$1.20 and graded 60/62s good French and staple moved at \$1.22. A 56/58s good French combing and staple California wool sold at \$1.10 while a 50/54s California wool brought \$1.05 clean. A small quantity of mixed 3/8s and 1/4 blood Wyoming wool, bulk good French combing and staple sold at \$1.09.

Texas Wools - Graded bulk good French combing 70s delaine type Texas wool sold at \$1.40 clean basis while bulk average to good French combing 12 months Texas wool in original bags cost from \$1.33-1.35 clean basis. A good weight of new clip shorn lambs wool sold in Texas at an estimated clean price of \$1.20-1.22 delivered Boston.

Mohair - Contracting continued at  $86\frac{1}{2}\phi$  for adult and \$1.06 $\frac{1}{2}$  for kid mohair to the warehouse. Dealers estimated that 500,000 pounds of mohair were contracted during the week under review. A total of about 1,500,000 pounds of spring clip hair has been contracted up to the present time.

Foreign Wools - A spot lot of greasy New Zealand good average 50/56s carding fleeces sold around \$1.23 clean basis, duty paid while spot super skirted Montevideo 60s brought \$1.27. Sales from South Africa for shipment to the United States included a 10 to 12 months 64/70s good topmaking wool around \$1.41, a 9 to 11 months 60/64s good topmaking wool around \$1.36 and a crossbred 60/58s Australian combing good to super fleece wool around \$1.34 clean basis, American yield, duty paid.

Cabled reports at week's end showed all Dominion markets closed about unchanged. Australian quotes follow: Type 55 at \$1.29; 56 at \$1.24; 57 at \$1.19; 432 at \$1.14; 433 at \$1.09; 434 at \$1.00 and 435 at  $93\phi$ . From New Zealand, type 93 at  $93\phi$ ; 834 at  $91\phi$ ; 100 at  $89\phi$ ; 107 at  $87\phi$ ; 114 at  $86\frac{1}{2}\phi$  and 128 at  $86\phi$ . From South Africa type 2 at \$1.27; 7 at \$1.25; 8 at \$1.21; 47 at \$1.21; 48 at \$1.19 and 52 at \$1.15. Above quotes based on clean U. S. yields in bond.

Carpet Wools - Turnover of carpet wools was slower than in recent weeks. All prices remained fairly strong with no quotable change.

Wool Tops - Wool tops trade was very quiet. Quotations were advanced sharply based on the futures market. Warp Australian oil-combed 70s was quoted at \$1.91; 64s at \$1.80; 62s at \$1.72; 60s at \$1.71; warp domestic oil-combed 64s at \$1.78; 62s at \$1.73; 60s at \$1.68; 58/60s at \$1.63; 56s at \$1.50; 50/56s at \$1.45; 50s at \$1.38 and 48/50s at \$1.32. Warp and half warp dry-combed domestic 64s at \$1.81; 62s at \$1.71 and a Cape 70s at \$1.87.

## INSPECTED STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS FROM PUBLIC STOCKYARDS

Year 1955 - with comparisons

Cattle and calves

Market origin	Year 1955	Year 1954	State destination	Year 1955	Year 1954
	Number	Number		Number	Number
Baltimore . . . . .	26,587	25,489	Pennsylvania . . . . .	100,560	82,614
Chicago . . . . .	83,571	87,859	Ohio . . . . .	134,300	112,226
Cincinnati . . . . .	11,802	16,603	Indiana . . . . .	147,412	135,288
Clovis . . . . .	122,715	133,182	Illinois . . . . .	470,760	436,791
Denver . . . . .	413,155	401,995	Michigan . . . . .	57,954	62,425
Detroit . . . . .	21,786	24,179	Wisconsin . . . . .	14,959	19,810
Fort Worth . . . . .	243,656	249,748	Minnesota . . . . .	148,480	133,841
Indianapolis . . . . .	50,719	51,562	Iowa . . . . .	832,358	923,886
Kansas City . . . . .	537,821	539,427	Missouri . . . . .	252,598	232,765
Lancaster . . . . .	83,250	64,780	South Dakota . . . . .	93,690	93,634
Los Angeles . . . . .	95,107	93,945	Nebraska . . . . .	370,813	443,933
Louisville . . . . .	47,344	42,359	Kansas . . . . .	274,814	304,927
Nashville . . . . .	23,275	20,785			
Ogden . . . . .	157,219	221,084	Maryland . . . . .	18,581	16,930
Oklahoma City . . . . .	335,427	323,262	Virginia . . . . .	10,699	7,320
Omaha . . . . .	419,881	495,333	Kentucky . . . . .	43,057	36,368
St Louis area 1/ . . . . .	136,756	130,721	Tennessee . . . . .	39,151	39,313
San Antonio . . . . .	330,812	367,629			
Sioux City . . . . .	423,354	485,470	Oklahoma . . . . .	236,853	210,731
Sioux Falls . . . . .	120,097	107,709	Texas . . . . .	433,678	465,181
S. St. Joseph . . . . .	126,158	121,005	Colorado . . . . .	266,071	246,228
S. St. Paul . . . . .	152,360	145,423	Utah . . . . .	44,682	47,304
Wichita . . . . .	126,344	156,141	California . . . . .	416,977	533,600
All other inspected 2/ . . . . .	958,179	933,923	All others 2/ . . . . .	638,928	654,498
Total 2/ . . . . .	5,047,375	5,239,613	Total 2/ . . . . .	5,047,375	5,239,613

## Sheep and Lambs

Chicago . . . . .	12,525	14,732	Ohio . . . . .	37,136	33,766
Denver . . . . .	431,095	541,417	Indiana . . . . .	34,439	31,481
Ft. Worth . . . . .	153,627	208,346	Illinois . . . . .	118,641	140,595
Kansas City . . . . .	79,301	76,061	Michigan . . . . .	17,517	15,336
Louisville . . . . .	8,273	1,382	Wisconsin . . . . .	10,997	13,286
Ogden . . . . .	333,699	416,497	Minnesota . . . . .	145,334	158,203
Omaha . . . . .	87,539	106,916	Iowa . . . . .	350,190	388,750
St. Louis area 1/ . . . . .	47,136	27,171	Missouri . . . . .	151,655	187,808
Salt Lake City . . . . .	152,660	172,984	South Dakota . . . . .	76,165	61,946
Sioux City . . . . .	86,469	100,380	Nebraska . . . . .	246,837	349,522
Sioux Falls . . . . .	56,343	58,351	Kansas . . . . .	70,523	111,656
S. St. Joseph . . . . .	91,288	116,996	Kentucky . . . . .	51,059	17,502
S. St. Paul . . . . .	180,055	185,819	Texas . . . . .	106,463	132,509
			Colorado . . . . .	202,181	212,414
			Utah . . . . .	41,742	62,961
All other			California . . . . .	248,568	295,788
inspected 2/ . . . . .	487,602	438,576	All other 2/ . . . . .	297,865	252,105
Total 2/ . . . . .	2,207,312	2,465,628	Total 2/ . . . . .	2,207,312	2,465,628

1/ Includes St. Louis National Stockyards, Ill., and St. Louis Mo.

2/ Excludes Hawaii. (Compiled from Inspection Records - A.R.S.)



## AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS FOR LIVESTOCK, FEED AND WOOL 1/

Commodity and unit		Jan. 15	Dec. 15	Nov. 15	Jan. 15	Average
		1956	1955	1955	1955	Jan. 1947- Dec. 1949
Farm prices -						
Hogs	per 100 lb. Dollars	10.90	10.60	12.20	17.00	21.90
Beef cattle	" "	13.90	13.50	14.10	16.20	20.20
Calves	" "	16.80	15.90	15.70	17.20	22.60
Sheep	" "	5.78	5.51	5.37	6.10	9.15
Lambs	" "	17.10	16.50	17.20	18.50	21.30
Wool	per pound	3/.395	3/.392	3/.390	.505	.460
Corn	per bushel	1.16	1.15	1.09	1.40	1.64
Oats	" "	.322	.626	.605	1.768	1.852
Barley	" "	.324	.920	.919	1.09	1.37
Hay, all baled	per ton	21.30	21.30	20.80	23.50	22.40
Cottonseed	" "	45.50	45.00	44.30	56.80	71.60
Hog-corn price ratio $\frac{2}{-}$						Jan. av. 1935-54
United States	Bushel	9.4	9.2	11.2	12.1	13.3
N. Central States	"	9.3	9.0	11.1	12.3	14.0
Iowa	"	8.8	8.4	9.9	12.1	--
Index numbers: (Av. Jan. 1910-Dec. 1914 = 100)						1947-49
All farm products		226	223	225	243	271
Feed grains and hay		171	170	164	204	230
Meat animals		207	201	216	263	334

## Prices paid by farmers -

All commodities	259	259	259	264	240
1/ Estimates of Crop Reporting Board. 2/ Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 pounds of hog, live weight. 3/ Average local market price for wool sold; does not include incentive payment to bring season average return to 62¢ per#.					

## EFFECTIVE PARITY PRICES FOR LIVESTOCK, FEED AND WOOL 1/

Commodity and unit			: Base	: Effective parity prices 3/		
			: period	: Jan. 15	: Dec. 15	: Jan. 15
			: price 2/	: 1956	: 1955	: 1955
Hogs	per 100 lb.	Dollars	7.47	21.00	21.10	21.40
Beef cattle	" "	"	7.55	21.20	21.10	21.40
Calves	" "	"	8.30	23.30	23.10	23.40
Lambs	" "	"	8.30	23.30	23.10	23.40
Wool	per pound	"	4/.214	.601	.586	--
Corn	per bushel	"	5/.642	6/1.73	1.82	1.82
Oats	" "	"	.301	.846	.851	1.863
Barley	" "	"	.472	1.33	1.33	1.34
Cottonseed	per ton	"	24.70	69.40	70.30	71.30

1/ Parity prices are computed under the provisions of Title III, Subtitle A, Section 301 (a) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 as amended by the Agricultural Acts of 1948, 1949, and 1954. 2/ Adjusted base price 1910-14 derived from 120 month, January 1946-December 1955, average, (including an allowance where appropriate for unredeemed loans and other supplemental payments resulting from price support operations) by dividing by 265 percent, (the 120-month average of the Index of Prices Received by Farmers adjusted to include an allowance for unredeemed loans and other supplementary payments) unless otherwise noted. Base period prices shown apply for 1956 only. 3/ Effective parity prices as computed currently in months indicated using base period prices and indexes then in effect. 4/ Adjusted base price 1910-14 derived from 10 season average prices 1946-55 (including an allowance, where appropriate, for unredeemed loans and other supplemental payments resulting from price support operations). 5/ 60-month average August 1909-July 1914. 6/ Transitional parity, basic commodities 95 percent and nonbasic commodities 65 percent (70 percent during 1955) of parity price computed under formula in use prior to January 1, 1950.

## UNITED STATES FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER AND MEAT PRODUCTION

December 1955 - with comparisons

	December		January - December		Percentage	
					Dec. 1955 of	
	1955	1954	1955	1954	Dec.: 5-yr.	
					1954: Dec. av.	
Number slaughtered under Federal inspection (thousands of head) -						
Cattle	1,617	1,583	19,055	18,476	102	123
Calves	633	639	7,499	7,573	99	122
Hogs	7,324	6,119	61,370	52,894	120	114
Sheep & lambs	1,155	1,167	14,383	14,148*	99	108
Average live weight: (pounds)						
Cattle	1005.9	980.7	975.0	958.2	103	101
Steers 1/	1047.8	1013.6	1009.4	986.3	103	102
Heifers 1/	895.6	861.5	853.8	832.3	104	104
Cows 1/	995.7	987.5	972.2	961.4	101	101
Calves	210.8	211.7	217.7	223.0	100	100
Hogs	237.2	244.5	240.8	243.9	97	98
Sheep & lambs	97.7	98.2	96.4	95.7	99	99
Average cost to packers: (dollars per 100 pounds)						
Cattle	15.01	17.03	16.92	17.44	88	72
Steers 1/	18.62	22.90	20.96	21.88*	81	71
Heifers 1/	17.81	20.74	19.86	20.14	86	73
Cows 1/	9.40	9.07	10.50	10.26	104	64
Calves	15.50	14.74	16.67	15.95	105	77
Hogs	10.60	17.15	15.09	21.72	62	57
Sheep & lambs	16.92	18.17	18.63	19.31	93	78
Dressing yields: (per 100 pounds live weight)						
Cattle	54.9	54.3	55.1	54.9	--	--
Calves	55.0	55.0	55.6	55.4	--	--
Hogs 2/	76.4	77.2	76.5	76.7	--	--
Sheep & lambs	47.9	47.9	48.0	47.9	--	--
Lard per 100#	15.1	15.1	14.5	14.2	--	--
Lard per animal	35.7	37.0	34.9	34.7	--	--
Average dressed weight: (pounds)						
Cattle	552.2	532.5	537.2	526.3	--	--
Calves	115.9	116.4	121.0	123.6	--	--
Hogs	181.2	188.8	184.3	187.1	--	--
Sheep & lambs	46.8	47.0	46.3	45.8	--	--
Condemnations: ** (number of head)						
Cattle	7,624	7,939	79,907	83,942	--	--
Calves	5,668	5,836	36,709	39,561	--	--
Hogs	12,700	10,855	109,090	98,658	--	--
Sheep & lambs	4,200	3,190	57,257	56,088	--	--
Total dressed weight - Excluding condemned: (thousands of pounds)						
Beef	888,852	838,570	10,194,588	9,680,615	106	126
Veal	72,667	73,669	902,965	930,893	99	122
Pork (carcass wt.)	1,324,890	1,153,238	11,292,382	9,875,730	115	112
Lamb & mutton	53,849	54,704	662,774	644,948	98	108
Total 3/	2,340,258	2,120,182	23,052,709	21,132,186	110	117
Pork, excl. lard	967,766	843,809	8,366,203	7,368,674	115	111
Lard production 4/	261,249	225,859	2,140,224	1,831,296	116	114
Rendered pork fat	11,250	10,752	108,175	96,515	105	106

1/ Also included with cattle. 2/ Subtract 7.0 to obtain reported packer style average. 3/ Totals based on unrounded numbers. 4/ Includes rendered pork fat.

\*\*Partly estimated. \*Revised.



## CLASSIFICATION OF LIVESTOCKS LAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION 1/

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	Number (000 omitted):				Percent			
	Dec. 1955	Nov. 1955	Dec. 1955	Dec. 1954	Dec. 1955	Nov. 1955	Dec. 1955	Dec. 1954

## Cattle:

Steers . . . . .	778	729	9,299	741	48.1	43.9	48.8	46.8
Heifers . . . . .	225	213	2,674	215	13.9	12.8	14.0	13.6
Cows . . . . .	584	681	6,656	592	36.1	41.0	34.9	37.4
Bulls & stags . . . .	31	38	427	35	1.9	2.3	2.3	2.2
Total 2/ . . . . .	1,618	1,661	19,056	1,583	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Canners & Cutters 3/	330	425	3,613	340	20.4	25.6	19.0	21.5

## Hogs:

Sows . . . . .	527	439	6,664	337	7.2	6.4	10.8	5.5
Barrows & gilts . . .	6,760	6,405	54,357	5,752	92.3	93.4	88.6	94.0
Stags & boars . . . .	37	14	350	31	.5	.2	.6	.5
Total 2/ . . . . .	7,324	6,858	61,371	6,120	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

## Sheep and lambs:

Lambs & yearlings . .	1,061	1,090	13,519	1,118	91.9	93.8	94.0	95.8
Sheep . . . . .	94	72	865	49	8.1	6.2	6.0	4.2
Total 2/ . . . . .	1,155	1,162	14,384	1,167	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Based on reports from packers. 2/ Totals based on rounded numbers.  
 3/ Included in cattle classification.

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION, BY CLASSES, OF CATTLE SLAUGHTERED  
UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

Region	Steers		Heifers		Cows		Bulls and Stags		Canner & Cutters	
	Dec. 1955	Dec. 1954	Dec. 1955	Dec. 1954	Dec. 1955	Dec. 1954	Dec. 1955	Dec. 1954	Dec. 1955	Dec. 1954
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
N. Atlantic States . .	59.5	50.0	1.2	2.1	38.0	45.8	1.5	2.1	21.3	25.0
S. Atlantic States . .	41.4	34.6	4.2	2.0	48.8	51.6	5.8	11.8	36.7	41.0
N. C. States - East . .	53.7	48.2	6.9	5.7	38.0	44.5	1.4	1.6	21.9	25.0
N. C. States - N. West .	48.1	48.5	16.0	15.6	33.8	33.9	2.1	2.0	18.7	15.4
N. C. States - S. West .	57.0	56.7	11.4	13.5	30.1	28.6	1.5	1.2	15.0	14.5
S. Central States . . .	27.7	26.0	6.5	8.7	63.2	61.5	2.6	3.8	40.2	46.0
Mountain States . . . .	24.2	37.2	50.3	42.2	24.1	18.9	1.4	1.7	14.2	10.8
Pacific States . . . . .	52.9	53.8	17.1	19.5	27.9	24.6	2.1	2.1	10.4	11.0

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WESTERN LIVESTOCK REVIEW - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 85

Supplies of slaughter steers and heifers were more than adequate for demand in the face of continued slow movement at the wholesale level and closing sales at Far West terminals varied from steady to \$1.00 lower. Cows sold weak to 25¢ lower at Stockton and South San Francisco, 50-75¢ off at Ogden and steady to 50¢ higher at other points. Slaughter calves and vealers closed unevenly \$1.00 higher to \$1.00 lower. Trade on barrows and gilts was featured by sharp upturns of \$1.00-2.75. Slaughter lambs were in good demand at steady to 50¢ higher prices, late sales at Denver 75¢-\$1.00 up.

Choice slaughter steers under 1200# brought \$17.00-21.00 at Western terminals, bulk \$18.50-20.50, one load high-Choice 1150# \$21.75 at Denver; Good steers mainly \$15.00-18.00; Good and Choice slaughter heifers \$14.50-17.75, some Choice at Denver \$18.00-19.50, one load high-Choice to Prime 1010# there at \$20.00. Utility and Commercial cows bulked from \$9.50-13.25; Cannery and Cutters \$7.00-9.50. Good and Choice vealers ranged from \$20.00-26.00, few high-Choice to \$28.00 at Portland; Good and Choice slaughter calves \$16.00-20.00. Most Good and Choice stockers and feeder steers sold from \$16.00-19.00.

High-Good to mostly Choice slaughter steers under 1250# sold out of California feedlots from \$18.50-19.00, high yielding Choice under 1050# \$19.25-19.50; few loads Choice slaughter heifers \$17.50-18.00 early, Good and Choice late \$16.00-17.25. Good and Choice stocker and feeder steers sold from \$16.00-17.50. Around 225 head of 400-425# dehorned Montana stock calves brought \$19.00 for the steers, \$16.00 for the heifers, with about 100 head at \$18.25 for the steers and \$15.25 for the heifers. A load Good and Choice 365# Oregon heifer calves sold at \$16.40.

Late in the week mixed U. S. No. 1 to 3 180-240# barrows and gilts brought \$15.50 in South San Francisco and Stockton; \$13.50-14.50 at Los Angeles; \$14.50-15.75 at Portland; \$14.50-15.00 at Spokane; \$15.00-15.75 at Ogden and \$13.75-15.25 at Denver.

Choice and Prime 92-111# woolled slaughter lambs bulked at Denver from \$19.50-20.00, 2 loads 104-106# \$20.25; Choice woolled \$20.00 at South San Francisco; other Good and Choice fall shorn to full woolled slaughter lambs at other Western terminals from \$17.00-19.00, few Choice fall shorn lambs to \$19.50 at South San Francisco. Good and Choice slaughter lambs with No. 1 and 2 pelts sold direct out of the Imperial Valley largely at \$19.00, f.o.b. Valley with the usual 4% shrink.